

## Djerejian named assistant secretary

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The office of the press secretary at the White House has announced the nomination of Edward P. Djerejian to be assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs. He would succeed John Hubert Kelly. Since 1983, Mr. Djerejian has served as Ambassador to Syria. Prior to this, he served as deputy assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs, 1985-1988; as a special assistant to the president and deputy press secretary for foreign affairs, 1985-1986; and as the deputy chief of mission at the American embassy in Moscow 1981-1984. In addition, he served at the American embassy in Moscow as chief of external affairs in the political section and then as acting political counselor, 1979-1981. Mr. Djerejian was graduated from Georgetown University (1960). He was born March 6, 1939, in New York. He served in the U.S. Army, 1960-1962. He is married, has two children and resides in Bethesda, Maryland.

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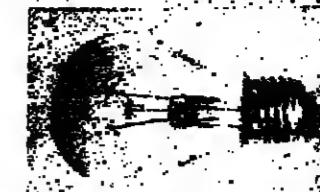
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## King returns home

AMMAN (U.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein returned to Amman from Europe Thursday after talks with several European leaders on the Middle East peace process and addressing the European Parliament on the situation in the region in general and the stand of Jordan in particular.

The main theme for the King's discussions and address was means to advance the peace process and ensure that a Middle East peace conference scheduled for October take place.

In his address to the European parliamentarians and comments to the press in Strasbourg following the speech, the King said that a breakthrough was at hand for peace in the Middle East but also warned of dire consequences if Arab hopes for peace were dashed.

The King reiterated the warning in arrival comments to the press in Amman.

"If things remain as they are now, I believe the area is drifting towards danger," he said. "There is a great deal of frustration and anger and I believe that if this chance is not taken, the loss of hope could bring with it rapid deterioration and extremism."

## Germany pledges further moves to assist Jordan

By Serene Halasa

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Germany, one of the first countries to respond to Jordan's appeal for help, is considering setting up a European consultative committee to study aid to help the Kingdom cope with the influx of hundreds of thousands of refugees from Kuwait and other Gulf states.

This was one of the tangible results of a visit to Jordan last week by Carl Dieter Spranger, Germany's minister of economic cooperation, who also expressed his country's readiness to help Jordan by using its political clout on the international level to enable the Kingdom to contribute positively to the Middle East peace process.

His Majesty King Hussein, upon his return from Europe, held a meeting with Mr. Spranger at the airport Thursday.

In comments to the press at the airport shortly before departure after a three-day visit, the German minister called for the resumption of Arab financial assistance to Jordan.

"The whole world is obliged to help Jordan to remain stable and to enable it absorb the refugees," Mr. Spranger said.

"Arab countries should also help

## Soviets, U.S. to stop arms supplies to Afghan parties

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union announced Friday they have agreed to halt all arms shipments to warring factions in Afghanistan as of Jan. 1, 1992.

The agreement was announced at a joint news conference by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin.

"Discontinuation of Soviet and U.S. arms supplies to the conflicting Afghan sides is one of the crucial elements of this agreement," Mr. Pankin said.

The joint statement said the United States and the Soviet Union "call for and pledge to support a democratic and free election process" in Afghanistan.

The two nations requested the United Nations and other "concerned governments, including those of Islamic countries, to work with the Afghans to convene a credible and impartial election mechanism."

The statement said the election

al process should lead to establishment of "a new government" that will have the broad support of the Afghan people.

The United States and the Soviet Union urged other countries to join in a cutting off of weapons deliveries to the warring factions and agreed to work towards withdrawal of major weapons systems from that country.

The statement did not mention the status of Afghan President Najibullah, who has had Soviet backing in his effort to defeat U.S.-backed rebels.

When asked about President Najibullah, Mr. Pankin said his fate would be decided in the next few days.

The United States and Saudi Arabia have been principal suppliers of arms to the rebels.

Two major Afghan guerrilla groups who have fought to overthrow the Kabul government since 1979 quickly welcomed the agreement.

The statement said the elector-

known, was to clear a path for passage of the British First Armoured Division.

The specially-equipped U.S. armour passed through the approximately 16-kilometer obstacle field three times, he said, noting that the first pass resulted in eight holes in the fortified barb, each the width of a tank. The second pass, in the opposite direction, made another eight holes. One the last pass, all 16 holes were wedged into lanes which would accommodate safely British armoured manoeuvres. "That was the sole purpose for using the tanks with the plows on them," Mr. Williams said.

The U.S. army, he explained, used mine plows on the front of the armoured tanks to "safely push the earth and the mines to the side and allowing the tanks to follow on and the fighting vehicles to go through."

The spokesman said the Iraqi soldiers who were killed were those who chose to stay and fight in their trenches "during the breaching operation." Those who continued to "infect deadly fire" in U.S. infantry forces or remained in their trenches in the breaching area "were buried with tanks with mine plows."

Mr. Williams had no statistics on the number of Iraqis who were killed or injured in the operation.

## Shamir ignores Bush's threat, insists on loan guarantees

Israel has 'friends' in U.S. Congress, Israeli premier says in indirect challenge to White House

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir ignored President George Bush's threat to veto \$10 billion in loan guarantees for Israel Friday, setting the stage for a bruising U.S.-Israeli confrontation.

"At this moment the struggle is internal, between (U.S.) congressmen who support and who express understanding of the needs of Israel and the administration," Mr. Shamir told an airport news conference minutes after returning from France.

"We don't see any reason to change our position," he said.

Mr. Shamir also called for Mr. Bush to explain why he wants to delay the loan guarantee package.

"We are also considering setting up a committee group to further study the situation in Jordan," Mr. Shamir said.

Minister of Planning Ziad Farid said last week that Jordan will need at least \$4.5 billion over the next five years to help it absorb the refugees who have increased the Kingdom's population by 10 per cent.

According to Mr. Spranger, Jordan, the largest recipient of German aid in per capita terms, received over the past few years 1.6 billion deutschmarks in aid. Germany was also one of the first European countries to respond to King Hussein's appeal to the Middle East peace process.

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## Israelis kill Palestinian in W. Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

— Israeli soldiers shot dead a Palestinian who was throwing stones at an army patrol in the occupied West Bank Friday.

According to the Hebrew daily Maariv, three right-wing parties in Mr. Shamir's governing coalition have called on Mr. Shamir to cease talks about a peace confer-

ence until the United States approves the guarantees Israel wants for the immigrants.

Asked at a Franco-Israeli breakfast rally in Paris, whether he felt Mr. Bush was being intransigent or abandoning Israel, Mr. Shamir said: "It's not up to me to define each of the persons active in today's politics. We have our friends... in the United States. I don't think I need say more."

More than 300,000 have arrived, and the government predicts there could be one million by 1995.

His comments at the airport were relatively low-key compared with remarks he reportedly made at a closed meeting with supporters of his Likud bloc in Paris.

Israel radio quoted him as saying "Israel will not agree to choosing between faithfulness to its essential interests and the money."

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(Continued on page 5)

## SLA fire kills UNIFIL soldier, guerrilla after abortive sea raid

TYRE, Lebanon (AP) — A newly arrived U.N. soldier and a Palestinian were killed Friday when a group of seaborne guerrillas seized U.N. peacekeepers as hostages after fleeing to South Lebanon chased by an Israeli gunboat.

Mr. Goksel said a Palestinian guerrilla was killed in the confrontation, another was wounded and held by the Israeli army and a third was held by the Israel's proxy South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia.

Mr. Goksel, spokesman for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), said the Palestinians seized 14 U.N. peacekeepers who then wound up in the middle of a battle between the guerrillas and a joint force of Israelis and allied Lebanese militiamen.

One of the soldiers was killed and five were wounded in the exchange, Mr. Goksel said.

He said the fatality was a Swedish sergeant and the wounded were two French and three Swedish soldiers. He refused to disclose their names until their families were notified.

The Swedes, including the

dead man, were newcomers. They only arrived in Lebanon Thursday as part of a routine rotation, Mr. Goksel told reporters.

Mr. Goksel said a Palestinian guerrilla was killed in the confrontation, another was wounded and held by the Israeli army and a third was held by the Israel's proxy South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia.

Three other guerrillas, Mr. Goksel said, "turned their weapons to UNIFIL and surrendered without any resistance."

The guerrillas identified themselves as members of Fatah, the largest Palestinian guerrilla group.

A Fatah spokesman denied involvement. "Anyone can claim that he belongs to Fatah," said Zeid Webb, Fatah's representative in South Lebanon.

In Tunis, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said its

(Continued on page 5)

## U.N. chief optimistic over Lebanon hostages

TEHRAN (Agencies) — U.N.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Friday he hopes to make more headway soon in his efforts to end the Middle East hostage crisis.

Prized for comment on reports that the release of Western hostages in Lebanon, he said he hoped to make more progress in the next few days or a few weeks.

"But I am hopeful that I could do more headway soon in his efforts to end the Middle East hostage crisis," he said.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar talked briefly to reporters before boarding a special flight that took him on an official visit to Saudi Arabia. His mission of ministerial rank referred to four Iranian diplomats who disappeared in 1982 and are believed dead.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, who saw Mr. Perez de Cuellar off at the airport, was also asked about prospects for further release of Western hostages. He said he could not make any predictions because "this is not in our hands."

But he said he was grateful for the U.N. human rights efforts on the issue and that Iran hoped "that all hostages, regardless of their nationalities, could be released as soon as possible."

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## Musawi predicts hostage release

BEIRUT (AP) — A pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim leader said in an interview published Friday that the issue of the Western hostages in Lebanon was on the way to a solution and predicted a hostage release in a week's time.

Hussein Musawi, a ranking member of the Shiite Muslim faction Hezbollah, said the hostage issue was "put on the proper course to a solution when the Americans started exerting pressure on Israel to free the (Arab) prisoners."

"One of the hostages in Lebanon will be released very soon. Maybe in less or more than a week," Mr. Musawi told the newspaper Al Liwa.

Hezbollah (Party of God) is the parent organisation for the factions holding most of the 11 Westerners missing in Lebanon.

Mr. Musawi's remark came a day after two hostage-holding groups sent messages offering cooperation in freeing the Westerners. The messages were accompanied by authenticating pictures of two hostages, American Terry Anderson and Briton Jack Mann.

The comment follows Israel's move, Wednesday freeing 51 Arab prisoners and returning the bodies of nine guerrillas to Lebanon in a move to facilitate the release of the Western hostages.

"The release of the Lebanese prisoners is the first step. Efforts to settle the hostage issue could now proceed," Mr. Musawi added.

The release coincided with a visit to Tehran, the Iranian capital, by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuelar who was asked in August by the hostage holding faction Islamic Jihad to mediate a swap of the Western hostages for Arabs held by Israel.

The Communist-run Voice of the People Radio quoted unnamed sources as saying Mr. Perez de Cuelar "has met in Tehran with a representative of the hostage holders."

"This representative asked Mr. Perez de Cuelar to work for a comprehensive swap and avoid piecemeal solutions preferred by Israel," the broadcast said.

The development coincided with the return to Israel early Friday of an exiled Palestinian and the body of an Israeli soldier who has been missing in Lebanon since 1983.

"The Israeli Boeing 707, which landed at an air force base next to Ben-Gurion international airport, brought the remains of Samir Assad. Also aboard was Palestinian activist Ali Abu Hilal, expelled from his West Bank home in 1986 because of activities in the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). The exchange of the body held

## Palestinian home after nearly six years of exile

by the DFLP for allowing the exiled Palestinian to return also could be a step inducing Israel to free more of the estimated 300 prisoners held by it and a proxy militia in Lebanon.

Lebanese minister Abdulla Al Amin, who is close to Syria, said Thursday: "There is definitely a positive atmosphere about the issue and there are hush-hush backstage efforts being exerted."

Expectations for a hostage release coincided with a message from Islamic Jihad in Beirut Thursday accompanied by a picture of Mr. Anderson, the American journalist who is the longest-held hostage.

While the Shiite faction's statement said Israel's release of 51 Arabs and return of nine bodies was "incomplete," it urged Mr. Perez de Cuelar to persist in trying to arrange a prisoner swap with Israel.

In Tehran, Mr. Perez de Cuelar said he believed Israel's freeing of prisoners could be the beginning of a solution to the hostage crisis.

But he said it was "not right to link too strongly the question of the missing Israelis with the release of the Westerners. There is not necessarily a link between the two things."

In its statement Thursday, Islamic Jihad said: "We are fully prepared to extend the required support for him (Mr. Perez de Cuelar) to reach the required comprehensive solution."

But it demanded more prisoner releases from Israel and freedom for some Lebanese jailed in Europe on hijacking and murder charges.

The 30-line Islamic Jihad statement was given to the Lebanese newspaper Al Nahar and a Western news agency in Beirut.

The picture of Mr. Anderson was the same as the one released by the group Aug. 6, which was the first to show a clean-shaven Anderson in profile in more than six years of captivity.

Mr. Anderson, 43, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, was kidnapped March 16, 1983.

Islamic Jihad's statement came about 14 hours after another group, the Revolutionary Justice Organisation, said the return of the 51 prisoners and nine bodies raised "a happy ending" hopes for the Western hostages.

The group also announced that 77-year-old Mann was "alive and in good physical shape" more than two years after he disappeared in Beirut.

Besides Mr. Mann and Mr. Anderson, the other missing Westerners are four Americans, two Britons, two Germans and an Italian.

## Outcry in Egypt over parliament drug scandal

CAIRO (R) — Official files implicating nine members of parliament in drug-trafficking have caused a public outcry and put Egypt's politicians on the defensive.

Parliament's Committee for Constitutional and Legal Affairs decided this week against expelling the nine — all from the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) — after studying Interior Ministry files.

But in a move that would allow prosecutors to press charges, it stripped parliamentary immunity from one deputy who was a hero of the 1973 war.

The affair has prompted widespread criticism of the NDP-dominated parliament. Political analysts said they believed the other eight members, dubbed "the druggies" by the local press,

had escaped on a technicality. A state-owned newspaper published a cartoon showing a mother weeping as an anti-narcotics officer took her son away. "You should be happy," a bystander assures her. "Your son has a bright future as a respected member of parliament."

Most of the allegations against the nine date back years and committee said it could only expel members for misdemeanours committed since they were elected.

"This is a mistake, they (the NDP) should investigate members before they nominating them," former Parliament Speaker Sufi Abu Taleb told Reuters.

"Many other members are very unhappy with their behaviour. But these doubts are not a legal proof," added Mr. Abu Taleb.

He said he did not fear for his safety "because the people love me."

Israel has expelled more than 1,300 Arabs from the occupied territories it occupied in the 1967 war. The reason given is usually anti-Israeli activity, and the few who have been allowed back were let in on humanitarian grounds.

His list is based on a 1974 census taken by Spain which counted 73,497 people of all ages.

Conflicting figures range from about 70,000 to over 300,000.

Sporadic war between Morocco and the pro-independence Polisario guerrillas formally ended with a ceasefire a week ago and the U.N. began deploying peacekeeping troops.

The first four members of the voter identification commission arrived Thursday. Chaired by Macaire Pedanou of Togo, the panel will eventually have 285 members of various nationalities.

The U.N. peace plan adopted by the Security Council in April says a consolidated list of voters should have been published in the territory on the day of the ceasefire, but it has not been posted.

Johannes Manz, a Swiss diplomat who heads the Minusma mission set up to supervise the ceasefire and organise the referendum, has said he has a list of 70,204 voters.

His list is based on a 1974 census taken by Spain which counted 73,497 people of all ages.

The figures would add up to over 335,000 people or nearly five times the number announced by Mr. Manz.

U.N. officials have said they cannot accept mass lists of names and applications for registration as voters must be made individually.

The population puzzle is complicated by disputes over the criteria used to identify voters and the fact that it is difficult to determine with certainty where a nomad was born.

"Last night there were 40 people here. All of them were (Greek-Cypriot) refugees from Morphou, Kyrenia and Famagusta (in Turkish-held north Cyprus). They gave me the moral strength to live."

## U.N. team leaves Iraq after helicopter row

BAGHDAD (R) — A U.N. inspection team investigating Iraq's ballistic weapons systems left Baghdad on Friday after failing to carry out its mission because of a dispute over the use of helicopters.

The 17-member group arrived in the Iraqi capital a week ago planning to visit sites in western Iraq from where Scud missiles were fired at Israel and Saudi Arabia during the Gulf war.

But Iraqi authorities denied them permission to use two helicopters stationed in neighbouring Turkey that are on loan to the United Nations.

Team leader Tom Brock, an American, told reporters before leaving for Bahrain — field headquarters for the inspection teams — that the western zone must be inspected at some point.

"I have not been able to accomplish the task that I had originally been assigned," he added. "The western zone will involve going out and inspecting the fixed launch structures and then to supervise or monitor their destruction."

Asked what effect the failure of his mission would have, Mr. Brock, 48, replied: "This doesn't make that significant an impact other than delay a timetable on which we would complete this basic inspection process."

A U.N. resolution adopted on Aug. 15 orders Baghdad to allow inspectors "to conduct both fixed-wing and helicopter flights throughout Iraq for all relevant purposes including inspection, surveillance, aerial surveys, transportation and logistics, without any interference of any kind."

Iraq says such flights pose a threat to its national security and it does not trust statements that they would be used solely to carry out the tasks of the inspection teams.

Iraq offered air transport of its own to the team and Mr. Brock said the mission could have gone on without U.N. helicopters.

Asked why it had not then done so, he replied: "Because the United Nations' position was that the inspection of the western zone would be utilising the U.N. zone.

## U.N. to tackle Western Sahara voter puzzle

RABAT (R) — United Nations commissioners are arriving in the Western Sahara to unravel the population puzzle behind the territory's 15 year war.

Who, in a desert region where nomads traditionally wandered without regard to borders, is entitled to vote in a referendum on the former Spanish colony's political future?

Conflicting figures range from about 70,000 to over 300,000.

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## Ex-guerrilla president vows to keep out of Cyprus politics

NICOSIA (R) — Ex-guerrilla Nicos Sampson, the frontman in a disastrous, Greek-orchestrated coup that led to the division of Cyprus, said Friday he had been made a scapegoat.

In his first foreign interview since being freed from jail, the stocky Greek-Cypriot journalist, who was president for eight days in 1974, vowed to stay out of politics for the rest of his life.

Mr. Sampson, 53, a legend on Cyprus for his battle against British rule and Turkish Cypriot rebels, said he did not want his freedom to be an obstacle in efforts to unite the island.

"I have no bitterness towards Turkish Cypriots. Why should my freedom be an issue? I am not interested in getting back into politics," he said.

At the beginning of July, a special high-level mission was sent to Baghdad to take up with Iraqi officials the issue of two previous nuclear inspection teams being denied access to nuclear sites and the concealment of nuclear material.

The attorney-general of Cyprus is trying to put him back behind bars. The Turkish-Cypriot minority has denounced him as a danger to inter-communal peace.

Mr. Sampson shrugged off the accusation that he was "a Turk killer" and said his part in the coup against President Makarios had been misrepresented.

Following the coup, carried out by the Greek colonels then ruling in Athens, Mr. Sampson was made president. The Turkish army invaded saying it needed to protect Turkish Cypriots. The island has been divided by barbed-wire and minefields ever since.

Mr. Sampson said he had no prior knowledge of the coup. "I became president because I thought Makarios was dead ... I took power to stop the civil war," he said, banging his hand on the table to emphasise the point.

Claiming there had been a big cover-up, Mr. Sampson said he had kept 40,000 telegrams sent by Greek Cypriots who backed his short-lived administration.

Wearing an open-necked shirt, Mr. Sampson's dark brown eyes moistened when he spoke of his days as an anti-British EOKA guerrilla fighter in the years before independence.

Twice sentenced to death by the British for possession of arms, Mr. Sampson was pardoned when Cyprus became independent in 1960.

"The EOKA days were the most glorious in the history of my country."

"I was tortured by the British. I felt sorry for the people who were killed, but the British forced us to fight. The responsibility is Britain's," said Mr. Sampson when asked if he personally had killed any British soldiers.

Branded a "Turk killer" by the British popular press of the 1960s, Mr. Sampson said his activities against Turkish Cypriots were those of a soldier serving his country.

"The Turkish Cypriots were in rebellion against the Greek-Cypriot dominated government," said Mr. Sampson, referring to intercommunal fighting.

"My conscience is clean."

He said he did not fear for his safety "because the people love me."

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## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### No Cyprus peace conference in September

NICOSIA (R) — The U.N. special envoy to Cyprus said Friday there would be no peace conference in September to re-unite the divided island. "I think it is quite true that we are not going to have a meeting in the short run on Cyprus," Oscar Camacho said. Asked by reporters if there would be a peace meeting in September, he replied: "Certainly not. In the current situation it would not be wise to call a meeting because the result of the meeting in these circumstances would not be the best." U.S. President George Bush, who has staked a personal interest in a speedy solution, proposed a conference this month. Mr. Camacho made the remarks before meeting President George Vassilou at the end of week of separate contacts with Greek and Turkish-Cypriot leaders. Cyprus has been divided since 1974 when Turkish troops invaded its northern third after a short-lived coup in Nicosia engineered by the military junta then ruling Greece. Reunification talks between Mr. Vassilou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash, who heads the breakaway Turkish republic of northern Cyprus, broke down last year. U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuelar, making a last push to solve the problem before he retires at the end of the year, last week urged all sides to redouble their peace efforts. Greek Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis and his Turkish counterpart, Mesut Yilmaz, failed in Paris this week to reach agreement of the convening of a United Nations peace conference on Cyprus.

### Sudan to help Iraq secure food needs

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's leader General Omar Hassan Al Bashir has said his country will help Iraq secure its food and medicine needs, Khartoum Radio said Friday. Gen. Bashir said he had been freed from jail, the stocky Greek-Cypriot journalist, who was president for eight days in 1974, vowed to stay out of politics for the rest of his life.

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Mr. Sampson shrugged off the accusation that he was "a Turk killer" and said his part in the coup against President Makarios had been misrepresented.

Following the coup, carried out by the Greek colonels then ruling in Athens, Mr. Sampson was made president. The Turkish army invaded saying it needed to protect Turkish Cypriots. The island has been divided by barbed-wire and minefields ever since.

Mr. Sampson said he had no prior knowledge of the coup. "I became president because I thought Makarios was dead ... I took power to stop the civil war," he said, banging his hand on the table to emphasise the point.

Claiming there had been a big cover-up, Mr. Sampson said he had kept 40,000 telegrams sent by Greek Cypriots who backed his short-lived administration.

Wearing an open-necked shirt, Mr. Sampson's dark brown eyes moistened when he spoke of his days as an anti-British EOKA guerrilla fighter in the years before independence.

Twice sentenced to death by the British for possession of arms, Mr. Sampson was pardoned when Cyprus became independent in 1960.

"The EOKA days were the most glorious in the history of my country."

"I was tortured by the British. I felt sorry for the people who were killed, but the British forced us to fight. The responsibility is Britain's," said Mr. Sampson when asked if he personally had killed any British soldiers.

Branded a "Tur

## Conference calls for pan-Arab solutions to safeguard the environment

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan delegation to the Arab Conference on Environment and Development in Cairo submitted a working paper suggesting the enactment of a pan-Arab law on the protection of the environment in the Arab World, according to Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Salim Al Zoubi.

The minister, who led the delegation to the Cairo meetings, suggested that a pan-Arab ministerial conference be held to decide on this important step.

Mr. Zoubi said that protection of the environment should be of interest to all Arabs since no individual Arab state can implement a successful policy on its own without cooperation from neighbouring states.

The minister said that the conference called on Arab states to exchange expertise in environment-related affairs, on means of preventing industrial pollution and ways to fight off contamination of the environment.

## Second stage of insecticide spraying in Jordan Valley region begins

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture is now carrying the second part of a campaign to rid the Jordan Valley region of insects, a programme conducted in cooperation with the Royal Jordanian Air Force, the Jordan Valley Farmers Association and the Civil Defence Department (CDD).

The ministry has just announced the completion of the first stage of the campaign, conducted over the past five days, during which Air Force planes were used to spray insecticides over a large area stretching from Al Arida to areas close to the Dead Sea.

Areas sprayed in the first part of the campaign included Sineh, Rameh, Kafraim, Wadi Shueib and south Shueib, according to Dr. Hanif Haddadin, director for Plant Protection at the Ministry of Agriculture.

The second stage will continue

It added that the ministers pledged their countries will work collectively to ensure the protection of wildlife, and water resources and forest lands.

They also underlined the importance of scientific research programmes and training of personnel in means of protecting the environment and the use of modern technology to reach that goal.

The ministers passed recommendations designed to provide protection to water resources, the development of the basic regions of the Arab World and fighting desertification.

The ministers expressed their concern over the continued threat to the Arab environment resulting from armed conflicts, lack of a solution to the Palestine question — which causes continued destruction of Arab resources in Palestine — and the deterioration in the state of the environment due to industrial development, the statement said.

The ministers urged Arab governments to enact legislation that would give impetus to the general trend of protecting the environment at all levels.

for the next 10 days involving ground spraying equipment and teams of ministry technicians, said Dr. Haddadin in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The area to be covered in the campaign, according to the ministry, is estimated at 100,000 dunums and the cost could reach up to JD 150,000.

Describing the outcome of the first stage of the campaign as excellent, Dr. Haddadin said that it would not be complete without the second part and without cooperation on the part of the local community and farmers. He said that farmers should collect and dispose of garbage and other waste, prevent any piling of dung in poultry or sheep enclosures and abide by ministry instructions about disposal measures.

The agreement was signed by JCO Director General Jamal Al Bedour and Jordan Valley Farmers Association Chairman Talal Ghazzawi.

The Ministry of Agriculture and its departments in the Jordan Valley region issued specific in-

structions to farmers and the local community to close windows and doors firmly, provide protection to animals and poultry and to refrain from taking animals out for grazing in areas sprayed with pesticides or insecticides for at least 10 days after the campaign has been completed.

Meanwhile, the Jordan Valley Farmers Association has signed a contract with the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) on coordination and cooperation to make available agricultural equipment, seeds, fertilisers as well as pesticides to be distributed to farmers in the Jordan Valley at cost.

The contract also provides for cooperation in the marketing of agricultural products.

The agreement was signed by JCO Director General Jamal Al Bedour and Jordan Valley Farmers Association Chairman Talal Ghazzawi.

The second stage will continue

## Seminar discusses various approaches to teaching

By Isha Wabben, Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The British Council, in cooperation with the Bishop School, Thursday hosted a seminar for teachers of English in 12 private schools in the Kingdom.

The three-day seminar, the first of its kind in Jordan, aims at bringing in teachers from various schools in the Kingdom and creating an atmosphere propitious for exchanging practical ideas on methods of teaching English, comparing difficulties encountered in the process and ways to overcome them and keeping the educators informed about the latest developments in teaching.

The first day of the seminar drew 72 teachers from private schools. Discussions are organised in sessions interrupted by long recesses "to give the teachers the chance to interact, exchange ideas." The attendees have the choice to take part in any of the discussions on the topics prepared and presented by teachers with experience in the field.

The "seed" of the seminar, says Larry Epp, head of the English Department at the Bishop School, was a survey of the English programme and ways to effectively use it conducted by his school, which ended up by bringing in a representative of Macmillan Publishers to exchange expertise with the school's teachers.

"We thought other teachers should benefit too so we brought other speakers in to help. We did not restrict the things to ourselves," he said.

Sarah Philpot, an educational consultant at Macmillan, came to guide the teachers on ways of using the Macmillan series "Rainbow." Her interest lies in the communicative approach to teaching and its application to the coming stage of the cultural

young children who are taught to read.

According to Ms. Philpot, there should be a genuine reason for children to read and the teachers should find the best way of creating this motivation. Faced with situations created by the teacher beforehand (like presenting a picture), children become creative, Ms. Philpot says.

"You elicit a lot of vocabulary before you start," she said. "It is a test before teaching, seeing how much the children know. Then you create the real reason for them to read."

Collaborative writing was presented by Jill Bamforth, who teaches at the Baccalaureate School. The approach, very much like the one in the real classroom, presented an active, animated, dynamic method of interaction that eventually leads to cooperation in writing (rewriting) a text and building English communication skills.

Starting from an excerpt — a small text — the pupils are asked to jot down as many individual words as they can possible remember and then, through group work, they should recreate the original text.

The drill uses lots of editing skills and interaction while, at the same time, it exercises a grammatical function, reinforces knowledge, and develops the vocabulary.

Chris Nelson, direct teaching manager at the British Council, had an interesting opinion about the use (or non use) of the syllabus in the process of teaching. The discussions gravitated around the current trends in teaching English.

"We would like to see more of this," she said, rushing to attend yet another lecture.

## Committee organising Arab Child Day celebrations

AMMAN (Petra) — A committee entrusted with preparing for the Kingdom's celebrations of the Arab Child Day held a meeting Wednesday at the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) under the chairmanship of NHF Director General Inaam Al Mufti.

The committee discussed the activities and the events which will be held during the week-long celebrations of the occasion. The celebrations are scheduled to start on Oct. 7.

The celebrations will include seminars which will be held in the Kingdom's various governorates. Children will take part in the seminars and will discuss issues related to childhood.

The events will include holding a main seminar on the International Charter for Children Rights which has been issued by the International Children's Summit. The seminar will be organised by the NHF and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The National League for Children's Education will also organise a seminar in Amman under the title "Children's Programmes in Radio and Television."

The Crown Prince will include

the need for the Islamic institutes and sharia schools to coordinate their programmes with those of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs as well as the ministries of Education, Social Development and Youth in matters related to laying the infrastructure for development of Islamic endowment land.

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## Right veto for a change

OF COURSE Israel is stunned by the warning of U.S. President George Bush that he would veto any congressional decision to award it the controversial \$10 billion loan guarantee. The Jewish state has become accustomed to being Washington's spoiled child by getting all it wants from the U.S., the day it wants it, simply by pulling some strings in the seats of power and mobilising its agents and lobbyists in that country in support of its demands. But when the U.S. president decides to put an end to Israel's gory logic and crude exploitation of Zionist pressure groups in a manner clearly detrimental to the overall American interests, the Israeli ruling government goes berserk and starts "crying wolf."

What is so disturbing about this latest Israeli attempt to manipulate Washington's foreign policy and make it serve its own national objectives is that it is based on the obviously false premise that the American people owe it to Israel to keep funding it with money and credit under one guise or another and that it is Israel's legitimate right to demand and obtain financial, economic, military and political aid all the time. This arrogant attitude is what is finally driving home in the U.S. the message that Israel must learn some discipline before Israeli audacity wrecks for ever all and every existing chance for peace in the Middle East.

The second objectionable feature about the Israeli insistence to go over the U.S. president's head and seek authorisation for the loan guaranteed in question from the U.S. Congress is that this political behaviour constitutes a major and blunt challenge to President Bush personally and contradicts his policies and their objectives in this region.

The Israeli prime minister and his followers inside and outside his country are obviously counting on their many friends on Capitol Hill and in the ability of the Jewish lobby to sway public opinion in the U.S. in their favour, as they had done so many times in the past. Obviously President Bush has also done his homework this time and is solidly banking on his people to win the stand-off on the loan guarantee issue. It is therefore more than comforting that this latent and brewing American-Israeli conflict of interests has come to a head at last. Any formula or compromise short of vindicating the Bush administration in its show-down with Israel in general and Shamir's government in particular would simply play into the hands of Israeli apologists. It is thus reassuring that the U.S. president has flatly ruled out any compromise solution entailing an agreement to accord the requested credit guarantee at the end of the four months. It would simply defeat the purpose to commit the U.S. beforehand on the loan guarantee and makes a mockery of Mr. Bush's attempt to rein in Israel and its current leadership. The fact that the Israeli government has already incorporated part of the \$10 billion credit into its new budget even before it is cleared by Washington proves beyond a shadow of doubt that Tel Aviv takes Washington for granted and now is the time to put an end to this irresponsible behaviour.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein's address to the European Parliament was a reminder to the world community to shoulder its responsibility towards alleviating the suffering and relieving the plight of the expatriates forced out of Kuwait, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. The paper said that the King's address was a brave message to the world and those believing in peace, justice and democracy and adhering to principled stands. In his address, the King put all the facts before the European parliamentarians, outlining Jordan's honest and courageous stand, its objective dealing with questions related to the Middle East problems and its continuous quest for peace based on justice, the paper said. This was a brave call to the world to come to the aid of Jordan, which is burdened with new responsibilities, and the Palestinian people, who are still the victims of injustice due to the lack of implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 that can ensure Palestinian people's rights in their own homeland, the paper continued. The King's brave speech, said the paper, was a call to the world community to give momentum to the peace process so that harmony and security can replace desperation and violence in the Middle East. The King, added the paper, has taken a brave stand in calling for the establishment of peace and it remains for the Europeans to respond favourably and contribute to the achievement of that objective.

GENERAL statements by the Arab League Secretary General Ismail Abdul Majid about re-establishing solidarity among Arab countries, without taking steps towards achieving that goal, came under fire from a columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily. We have heard statements by the Arab League secretary general stressing the need for solidarity, but the statements failed to point to the real problems and to the Arab states responsible for the present divisions in the Arab World, said Bader Abdul Haq. Countries that had orchestrated the U.S.-led alliance's aggression against Iraq should take steps to erase the hatred that is now deep-rooted among the Arabs, and the Arab League should take practical steps towards ending divisions so that the way can be open to solidarity, the writer continued. He said it is feared that Mr. Abdul Majid's statements are not more than mere words phrased for him by the United States and its allies which seek to dominate the Arab region through the Arab League. It is feared that Mr. Abdul Majid is seeking a kind of solidarity that would only serve Washington's interests and not those that existed in the Arab World before the Gulf crisis, the writer added. We have heard a great deal about the Arab League and its statements, said Abdul Haq, but the Arab masses have so far failed to see practical steps that can really help re-establish solidarity among Arab countries.

# 'Peace should be between peoples not states'

## New world order requires new thinking

Following is the text of an address by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan entitled "The Search for Peace" to the annual conference of the Department of Public Information for NGOs—"Peace, Justice and Development—ingredients for an emerging new world order"—in New York. It was delivered via satellite.

The concept of an emerging world order brings to my mind the Grand Old Duke of York, who discovered that if you are halfway between two places, you are nowhere. My intention is not to start my address to you today on a pessimistic or critical note. At the risk of apparent inappropriateness, I cannot help but refer to the statement of Woodrow Wilson quoted in my book "Search for Peace," which was published in 1984. In his address to the United States Senate on Jan. 22, 1917, he said "There must be, not a balance of power, but a community of power, not organised rivalries but an organised peace."

That book, as its title suggests, was a modest attempt to tell how we can bring about, to the Middle East, the peace that the whole world needs. Of course the political will for peace was not mustered, and the successive missed opportunities and tragedies in the Middle East during the eighties culminated in the recent Gulf crisis.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Some analysts consider that the breakdown of strategic confrontation between the superpowers is moving the world towards a supraregional rather than a purely regional character. The forty-year-old cold war was not only wasteful in armaments and confrontation. The greater loss is perhaps in the form of those contradictions of the cold war that have been internalised in all aspects of international relations. There are those who consider that the U.N. may be its own worst enemy in respect of a Security Council based on the legacy of the cold war and having little to offer the new world.

The greatest challenge in the search for peace in an emerging world order is not merely for the U.N. to be reborn. There is an intransigence and determination to execute the settlement programme in Arab lands. Furthermore, the Palestinians have not reached a decision yet as to the participation in the coming conference, which could prompt the U.S. to involve its Arab allies alone in the parley.

The writer urged the Palestinian leadership to take a speedy decision with regard to their participation in the coming negotiations because, he said, the coming chance could be the last.

A columnist in Al Dustour expressed surprise at the Arab countries' welcome of the U.S. administration's delay for 120 days only, in offering guarantees to Israel to obtain loans to build settlements.

Taher Al Adwan said that the Israelis are going ahead with their plans anyway and are certain of eventual approval by the U.S. administration of the required guarantees for a \$10 billion loan to be obtained from world banks.

Israel is in a race against time to build thousands of homes for the Soviet Jewish and other immigrants while the Arab city of Jerusalem is being Judaised as the Arabs continue to count on Israel's ally, the U.S., to bring the Palestinians their national rights in their homeland, the paper added.

In light of the coming tour of the region by the U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Sawt Al Shaa daily said that the U.S. secretary's mission this time could be harder than ever before. While the U.S. is showing its determination to bring about peace, the Israeli government is showing more obstinacy regarding the settlement issue, the paper said.

The U.S. administration should admit now that it is Israel, and not the Palestinians, that is obstructing the peace conference which was accepted by all the U.S. plans to ignore them.

A great columnist in Sawt Al Shaa is pessimistic about the prospects of peace.

Abdul Haif Abu Qaoud said that all indications point to the fact that the U.S. administration is going ahead with plans to impose on the Arabs a political settlement as directed by the world Zionism.

The writer said that the Arabs are still in disarray on the eve of the proposed conference while Israeli leaders continue to show

ties, an intellectual bridgehead is desperately needed to resolve the dichotomy between the international political and economic frameworks. This applies equally between North and South as well as in the North and South.

Honoured delegates,

In our search for peace it is vitally important to bear in mind that it is impossible to rabid justice. The notion that truth cannot be forged out in careful negotiations might generate a fear among decision makers that the process may go too far and create an avalanche. This in turn may produce a wish to go nowhere at all or even to retreat.

In approaching the Middle East peace process, we are aware of the need to strike a delicate balance between respect for the normative contents of relevant international law norms and Security Council resolutions on the one hand, and the need for flexibility and ingenuity to ensure that negotiations are meaningful, on the other.

In determining the most appropriate route for the search for peace, it is essential to consider the probable humanitarian, social and political character of the emerging world order. If peace is to be meaningful and durable, then it has to be among people and not only between governments and states.

In Jordan we have been engaged during the eighties in such an approach of exploring the humanitarian route map. I participated in the work of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues which recognised "that progress in removing the causes of human suffering is a step-by-step proposition. It is not just the quality of life but life itself, that is threatened. Modern man is at peace neither with himself nor with his environment." We are faced with the dual challenge of man against man and man against nature.

The independent commission, a lobby for the powerless, dealt with a wide range of issues. The

major themes were "Humanitarian norms, particularly those pertaining to modern wars and conflicts; disasters: natural and man made such as famine; vulnerable groups such as refugees and indigenous people and the degradation of the environment; deforestation and desertification."

The final report of the commission offered a new humanitarian outlook and applicable alternatives. It urged that action ought to be taken prior to disasters rather than wait and react in the aftermath. It stressed that economic growth, national security and other grandiose schemes that are often applauded and sought after, are of no value if they do not bring about a greater welfare for the concerned people. They are of value if and when they are of benefit to the well-being of the public at large.

In short, our efforts were directed towards a multilateral approach to world interdependence through evolving a humanitarian order. Simultaneously with this effort, a three-stream interreligious dialogue has been conducted with the Vatican, in the United Kingdom and the Orthodox Centre of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Geneva. The dialogue has emphasised and built upon common aspects and shared values and concerns for the three monotheistic faiths.

However at this stage, we feel the urgency to reinforce our search for peace with a state-to-state effort and have thus called for a Helsinki-type approach of a CSCME (a Conference for Security and Cooperation in the Middle East).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A broadly defined security concept means tackling the root causes of conflict. The three dimensions of security (military, political, economic) must be explicitly recognised. They interact dynamically with people, resources—environment and cultural identity in every part of our globe, an effective search for peace requires a careful examination

of all the relevant route maps. We have in Jordan evolved our thinking in this regard along the form of a regional matrix. This can help identify priorities in a process for security and cooperation in the region. A breakthrough in resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict can pave the way for a conference for security and cooperation in the Middle East (CSCME). We look at this as a process rather than a one time event.

There are some who consider that the problems of the Middle East are too daunting to allow for such a process of security and cooperation as the CSCME. But it ought to be stressed that if there is a will there is a way. The challenges facing political union in Europe are quite formidable. But this has not deterred the community from pursuing that aim including the controversial objective of a European defence policy. We all saw how swiftly the recent Gulf war transformed the southern flank of NATO into its southern front.

In essence, many regions of the world face the challenge of reconciling security to the often conflicting perceptions and aspirations of different peoples. Within that context, it has been rightly observed that the primary focus of security should be people and not states, nor the elite, the affluent or the powerful.

In talking about people, I firmly believe in the trilateral approach based on democracy/society/prosperity for our region.

The politics and economics of despotism have to be replaced by the political economy of peace and progress. Extremism and radicalism should be tackled by democratisation and freedom of expression. Imaginative approaches to arms control can promote security while at the same time diverting hundreds of billions of dollars towards socio-economic development.

A conference on security and cooperation in the Middle East (CSCME) can draw on the moral weight of the Helsinki process in

Europe. I have on more than one occasion emphasised that the "Helsinki 34" are integrally inter-linked to the Middle East through the triangle of energy, armaments and debt. The "Helsinki 34" are the main consumers of Middle East oil, its main suppliers of arms and its main creditors. It is no exaggeration to say that oil revenues in the Middle East have literally fuelled the arms race, which in its turn has been largely behind the external debt crisis faced by many countries in the region. Any effective consideration of arms control must therefore by necessity focus on the issues of energy and indebtedness.

For example, the recent proposal from Brussels for a European energy charter provides useful guidelines for tackling constructively the issue of energy in the Middle East. This proposed charter outlines three objectives for the European energy sector including Eastern Europe: Firstly, security of supply; secondly, safeguarding the environment and thirdly efficiency of production. If these principles were applied in respect of Middle East energy, then a great contribution to peace and stability will be made.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

"Your three-day gathering, according to the conference information," is an attempt to address how recent geo-political events present new opportunities for enhancing the role of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security, and the promotion of economic and social development."

I believe that the role of the NGOs is a basic ingredient required for the successful exploitation of these opportunities. NGO action can provide that much needed bridgehead to overcome the dichotomies I referred to earlier on. It is with this sense of appreciation and expectation that I wish you all the success in your endeavours.

Thank you.

## The week in print

### U.S., Europe and the Arabs: How will the scales tip?

HIS Majesty King Hussein's major address to the European Parliament about the situation in the Middle East, the prospects of the peace process, Jordanian-Egyptian relations in the wake of the publication of the Jordanian White Paper on the Gulf crisis and domestic affairs were discussed at length by the local media in the past week.

In his address the King presented all facts before the Europeans, urging them to come to the help of the people of Middle East and establish peace, said Sawt Al Shaa in an editorial. We need the European Community to actively participate in establishing stability and security in our region and we need its help to end the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis of international legitimacy, said the paper.

The King's address was a message to the whole world community through the European Parliament, urging the peace loving nations to implement the U.N. Security Council resolutions that can bring about peace and security to all countries in the region, said Al Ra'i daily. What the Middle East region needs now is an end to all conflicts and a peace based on justice, guaranteeing the Palestinians their national rights in their homeland, the paper added.

A columnist in Al Dustour said that the apparent dispute between Israel and the U.S. administration over the loan guarantees is just a show.

The U.S. administration should now that it is Israel, and not the Palestinians, that is obstructing the peace conference which was accepted by all the U.S. plans to ignore them.

A great columnist in Sawt Al Shaa is pessimistic about the prospects of peace.

Abdul Haif Abu Qaoud said that all indications point to the fact that the U.S. administration is going ahead with plans to impose on the Arabs a political settlement as directed by the world Zionism.

The writer said that the Arabs are still in disarray on the eve of the proposed conference while Israeli leaders continue to show

communism and the disarray in the ranks of the Arab countries have all paved the way for the U.S.-Israeli alliance to impose the settlement.

Several columnists discussed the ongoing hostile campaign in the Egyptian media against Jordan for publishing the White Paper that throws light on the facts surrounding the Gulf crisis.

Fahd Al Fanek said in Al Ra'i that the White Paper is now sought by all Arab people because it presents facts that are not liked by the Egyptian regime.

The White Paper presents facts that preceded the Gulf war thus exposing the Egyptian regime and other Arabs who chose to side with the U.S.-Western alliance, said the writer.

He said Egypt, after President Nasser, has played two shameful roles: first by stabbing the Palestinians in the back through their Camp David accords with Israel and second when Cairo was instrumental in launching the U.S.-led aggression against Iraq.

By publishing the White Paper Jordan has placed itself and its nationals living in Cairo, on the Egyptian blacklist, said Taher Al Adwan in Al Dustour.

The Egyptians are taking vengeance on the Jordanian students and Palestinian citizens in retaliation for the publication of the White Paper which obviously exposes the shameful role played by Egypt during the Gulf crisis said the writer.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily criticised the Arab League which has recently held its 96th meeting in Cairo.

Mahmoud Rimawi said that topics of real importance to the Arab World, like the immigration of Jews to Palestine, the peace process initiated by the U.S., arrangements in the Gulf, where the Americans are establishing their presence, and the eviction of thousands of Jordanians and Palestinians from Kuwait, were not among the subjects on the agenda.

The writer suggested that strict measures be taken to stop this bad habit which is harmful to the community in general.

A columnist in Al Ra'i focused attention on the plight of private school teachers who receive little salary and are exposed to improper treatment by the school administration.

Fahd Al Kawar said that not only do these teachers receive low salaries, barely enough to pay for transport, but they are also denied the salary for the three month summer vacation. He urged the government to end this inhuman treatment of the teachers and ensure their rights.

## Saudi Arabia

### responding

### cautiously to

### Iranian overtures

By Marian Isa  
Reuter

MANAMA — Saudi Arabia is responding cautiously to Iranian overtures as the two Muslim rivals work on a post-Gulf relationship to end years of mutual distrust.

Diplomats in the region say revolutionary Iran and the conservative Arab monarchy have both given top priority to their budding friendship — a result of Teheran's neutral stand during the Gulf war.

Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani has accepted an invitation to visit Saudi Arabia, just five months after the two states ended a three-year break in relations.

No date has been set but Mr. Rafsanjani will be the first Iranian head of state to visit Riyadh since the Islamic Revolution brought Shiite fundamentalists to power in 1979.

Diplomats said the visit was a further sign of goodwill between Saudi Arabia and Iran, the spiritual leaders respectively of Islam's two main branches — Sunnis and Shiites.

But they said it would take time before Saudi Arabia, which supported Iraq during its eight-year war with Iran, could overcome its traditional fears of Shiite fundamentalism.

"It is a probing relationship," one senior Arab diplomat in the kingdom said.

"The Gulf crisis has created a new theatre where new things can be tested but any wrong move could create problems in the future. The Saudis are being very cautious," he told Reuters.

"The relationship is clearly improved but there is still a lot of mutual suspicion and distrust — it will take time before this changes. Saudi Arabia is still leery of Iranian intentions," another Riyadh-based diplomat said.

The main obstacle was religious differences between Sunnis and Shiites dating back centuries, the diplomats said.

Saudi Arabia is the birthplace of Islam and home to Islam's two holy cities, Mecca and Medina. The two countries cut ties soon

after

## Ensour hails outcome of Cairo talks

(Continued from page 1)

the Soviet Union, to put an end to the immigration to the occupied Arab territories. The council also adopted another decision rejecting and condemning the Israeli occupation of Syria's Golan Heights.

The council called for studying the situation of the Iraqi people and for making every possible effort to provide the basic needs of the Iraqi people and to end their suffering.

Arab League Secretary General Esmat Abdul Meguid said the council also reviewed other issues of common interests to the Arab Nation, including the Lebanese problem. The council, he said, voiced support for Lebanon's efforts, peace and reconciliation.

On the issue of Kuwaiti captives in Iraq, the council requested the league's secretariat to

assist in finding an inter-Arab solution to this problem.

On the Somali question, the council recommended that efforts be pursued to restore security and stability to that country. It further called for providing food and medicine to Somalia to help it through its current crisis.

At a press conference after the meeting, Dr. Abdul Meguid said the council stressed the importance of forging closer cooperation with Africa, with a view to developing Arab-African cooperation into a model for cooperation between countries of the South.

On proposed amendments to the Arab League Charter, Dr. Abdul Meguid said that Libya and Qatar had joined a seven-member committee entrusted with discussing the amendments to the charter and to establish a higher Arab court of justice.

## Abed Rabbo sets up own group

(Continued from page 1)

intellectual pluralism as our organisational basic," Mr. Abed Rabbo said, adding that Mr. Hawatmeh's clinging to the Marxist thinking was a major difference between the two.

He explained that his breakaway group considers itself "a nationalist, democratic and progressive for all the sons and daughters of Palestine, regardless of their social and religious trends. And this does not conflict with our secular trends."

Mr. Abed Rabbo, however, held out an olive branch to his rival and called for a face-to-face dialogue to resolve the pending differences in a "democratic and civilised" manner. "We are completely willing to resolve the differences based on democratic and civilised means by sitting together face to face to end existing

differences," Mr. Abed Rabbo said. He noted that other Palestinian parties and prominent personalities, including Mr. Arafat and Dr. Habash, had tried in vain to mediate the rift.

"Each of us has his role and it is not our business at all to continue our differences with our brother Nafez's group or any other national Palestinian parties. We believe that this is a waste of our national efforts and capabilities," Mr. Abed Rabbo said.

The Amman DFLP conference, where a parallel conference took place in the occupied territories, resulted in political resolutions concerning the Palestine question that conform with the official PLO position. The conference resolutions, Mr. Abed Rabbo said, will be submitted to the PNC session in Algiers on Sept. 23.

## Arab coordination talks deferred

(Continued from page 1)

Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories and the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to independent statehood.

"We believe that we all agree that there is a need to secure international guarantees" before the peace conference starts, Mr. Abed Rabbo noted.

Egypt, which had initial reservations over the proposal, agreed to attend the Arab meeting in talks with senior PLO officials earlier this month and reaffirmed its position to the Jordanian foreign minister, Abdulla Ensour, who met with President Hosni Mubarak and Foreign Minister Amr Musa in Cairo last week.

But, "Syria's position is that, while it is willing to participate in the crucial meeting, it will be premature to engage in inter-Arab exercises before Israel announces its acceptance or non-acceptance of the peace conference," an informed source told the Jordan Times.

Syrian leaders, in talks with other Arab and Palestinian leaders, are pointing out that "a declaration of the Palestinian position on representation and Israeli acceptance of the Palestinian representation are crucial to convening the peace conference," the source said.

Apparently, the Syrian leadership, which remains at odds with the PLO leadership under Chairman Yasser Arafat, does not want to engage in reconciliation contacts with the PLO prior to firmly establishing that the peace conference is going to take place.

The declaration of the Palestinian position is expected at the PNC meeting scheduled to be

convened in Algiers on Sept. 23, and Israeli acceptance to attend the peace conference is seen to hinge on whether the PLO agrees to the Jewish state's demand that only non-PLO Palestinians and no Arab East Jerusalem Palestinians attend the parley as negotiators.

Amman and Cairo are the suggested venues for the Arab coordination talks, other sources told the Jordan Times.

"Egypt had been expressing reservations over the issue, but last week's contacts have cleared the way for the meeting," said one source, noting that President Mubarak and Chairman Arafat met in Libya two weeks ago and senior PLO official Farouk Qaddoumi held talks with Foreign Minister Musa in Cairo last week.

None of the sources, who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, could definitely affirm the level of representation at the planned gathering in Cairo, but most expected foreign ministers of Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon as well as Mr. Qaddoumi, head of the PLO Political Department, would attend.

Dr. Ensour, in remarks after meeting Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Musa in Cairo Wednesday on the fringes of an Arab League Council session, said that the president "reaffirmed the importance of conducting speedy negotiations among Arab experts and ministers so that a collective Arab stand can be adopted" before the October peace conference.

The Arab League Council also called for a meeting of the Arab parties involved in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Mr. Qaddoumi was quoted as saying after his talks with Mr. Musa: "We can say that coordination has been achieved."

# Scientists still learning from Mt. Pinatubo

By Jon Miller

CLARK AIR BASE, THE PHILIPPINES — Mt. Pinatubo has simmered down, but the mood inside the volcano-monitoring station is electric: 18km from the mountain's crater, seismometers jingle, computers purr, telephones ring and videotapes flicker. Tom Casadevall, in shorts, a baseball cap and T-shirt, dashes from person to person, asking questions, clapping his hands, speaking words of encouragement.

The reason for the excitement? Scientific ground is being broken. And when volcanologists break ground, that's good news for the millions of people worldwide who live around the corner from some of nature's most terrifying neighbours.

"In terms of impact on a human population, this volcano is clearly, by far, the major event of modern times," says Casadevall, a 44-year-old gas emissions expert with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Volcano Hazards programme. "It's also the largest eruption we've ever observed with instruments. It has supported a lot of what we've learned at other volcanoes, and it has filled in some important gaps."

Never before has so much data been gathered on such a large volcano. Thanks in part to powerful new computer technology, the mountain, shrouded day and night in mist and ash, has been a living, bubbling, steaming laboratory for scientists wanting to learn more about how volcanoes work — and how to help save thousands of lives in the process. Mt. Pinatubo, which erupted repeatedly from April to July, was the fourth largest volcanic event of the century, spewing some four to six million cubic metres of ash and stone onto the heavily populated region around its base. The physical and economic damage has been incalculable. Ashfall and mudflows have completely transformed the landscape, wiping

out farms and businesses, destroying roads and bridges, crippling a huge American air base, and displacing thousands of tribal people who had lived for centuries on the mountain's forested slopes.

But the relatively small cost in human represents a tremendous victory for the Philippines geologists and civil defense personnel, who led evacuation efforts, and for American volcanologists who arrived in April with sophisticated equipment and extensive international experience. The death toll from the eruption is still under 500; compare that to the 25,000 who died in mudflows caused by the smaller eruption of Nevada del Ruiz in the Colombian Andes in 1985.

"Mt. Pinatubo was a dramatic

success story," says Casadevall, an affable and energetic man who has worked on volcanoes in half a dozen countries. "The number of buildings that collapsed alone should have caused a greater number of fatalities than we actually had. People tend to cluster indoors during an ashfall. The same goes with the mudflows. But people were informed, and knew when to get out."

Mr. Casadevall, who came at the invitation of the Philippines government, says the key to the success at Pinatubo was twofold: first, scientists understand better than ever what is happening kilometres beneath the surface of the earth, and second, they have learned to communicate that understanding to the population at large. The second point is in many ways the most important. When Nevada del Ruiz erupted, volcanologists had a fairly good idea of what was in store. They had drawn up maps showing where mudflows were likely to go, and they had outlined the other hazards. Their warnings were sent to the local government, and even published in the newspaper. But the people in the area weren't convinced. Almost

all the fatalities occurred in mudflows that had been anticipated by the geologists.

Mt. Pinatubo has been a shot in the arm for the tight-knit international volcanology community.

Geologists fear nothing more

than a repeat of the Nevada del Ruiz fiasco in a major population center. Mt. Vesuvius in Italy, Mt. Merapi in Indonesia, Mt. Fuji in Japan and Mt. Pichincha in Ecuador are all in extremely densely populated areas. All Mr. Casadevall says, are "time bombs."

All, he hopes, will be less deadly because of the lessons learned in the past few months at Mt. Pinatubo.

Most of the fatalities from Mt. Pinatubo occurred during the ashfall caused by the single biggest eruption in mid-June. A number of people died after the eruption when volcanic materials and gas came cascading down the

mountainside, and more were killed in mudflows brought on by heavy rains. The death toll continues to mount as evacuees succumb to disease in overcrowded relocation centers. Ironically, more Americans die in overcrowded relocation centers. Ironically, more Americans were at risk from the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo than have ever been threatened by a volcanic eruption. All American volcanoes are in sparsely populated national parks or forests. But more than 25,000 Americans live on or around Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Station, both of which are very much within Pinatubo's danger zone.

The proximity of the bases was a lucky break for the more than one million Filipinos in the area. Washington gave the USGS unprecedented support — from

on-base housing. The American geologists brought expensive seismometers and other equipment. And, working closely with their Filipino counterparts, they got to test a set of a powerful new computer programmes that turned out to be ideally suited to developing countries like the Philippines.

"This is really the first eruption where we're relied so heavily on the personal computer," explains Mr. Casadevall. "If one of those computers had broken down, we could have found a replacement within an hour. Personal computers don't need air conditioning, they are rugged, they can be bought on the local market. And the software can literally be carried in a scientist's briefcase."

The USGS, which has access to huge main-frame computers at its monitoring sites in the United States, found that the "Willie Lee

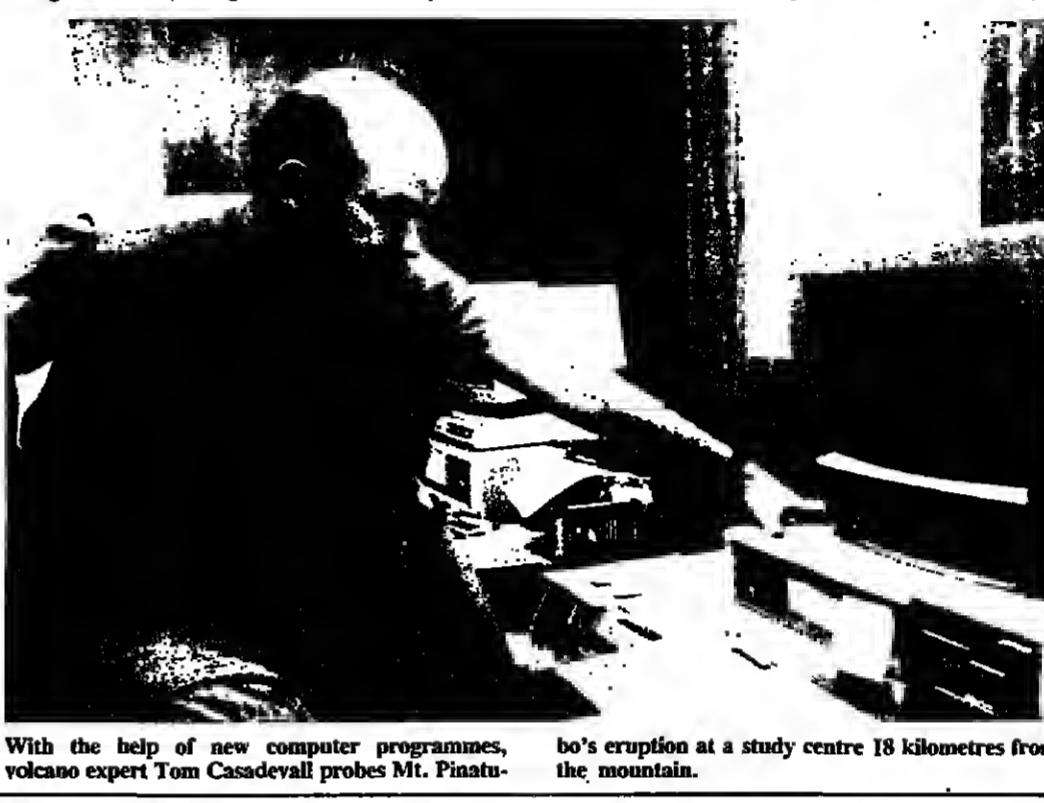
System," designed for the personal computer by a USGS specialist, was extremely useful for processing the information transmitted by seismometers placed at strategic sites around the volcano. A newer USGS system, designed to be used on a \$200 notebook computer, is expected to be even more powerful.

Mr. Casadevall, who says he is doing more coordination than science at the Pinatubo station, is particularly interested in aviation safety during volcanic eruptions.

He was an organizer and resource person at an emergency conference in July in Seattle that was attended by representatives of airlines, governments and affected industries from two dozen countries. He says the Philippines government should be

commended for its rapid and level-headed response to the ashfall that blanketed Manila on June 15. It was the first time a major international airport anywhere had to deal with significant quantities of ash. Just a week after a typhoon deposited a thick layer of gray powder on the capital runways were clear and planes were in the air — an impressive feat, Mr. Casadevall says.

He notes that every volcano is different, and there is no way to predict exactly what will happen or when — once a sleeping mountain wakes. But every well-observed eruption erases a little of the mystery. The next several months will be spent sifting through data, refining ways of classifying eruptions, of measuring mudflows, of processing seismic evidence. Perhaps more important, volcanologists from around the world, with a little more experience under their belts, will get together and swap stories about what went right and what went wrong. "We're trying to get a clear sense of just what happened," Mr. Casadevall says, early in what will be another 15-hour workday. "It's still an incredibly dynamic situation" — World News Link.



With the help of new computer programmes, volcano expert Tom Casadevall probes Mt. Pinatubo's eruption at a study centre 18 kilometres from the mountain.

## Shamir ignores Bush's threat

(Continued from page 1)

October.

Mr. Shamir praised the lobbying of pro-Israeli groups, whose last major battle with a U.S. president was their unsuccessful 1981 attempt to block the sale of AWACS surveillance aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

But this confrontation — with Israel openly calling for its supporters in Congress to ignore the wishes of a popular president — could develop into the most bitter U.S.-Israeli struggle since Washington opposed Israel's 1956 Suez invasion.

Police Minister Romi Milo, a close ally of Mr. Shamir, said earlier pro-Israeli forces in Washington should be strengthened.

"We have to stand on this position, be very aggressive, exert pressure on Congress for immediate approval of the aid.

"I have not to express any opinion about it," Mr. Shamir said. "The Jewish leaders and all our friends in the U.S. are deciding these problems on their own."

Mr. Bush has opposed Israel's cash building programme in the occupied Arab territories. He has warned that further U.S. aid to Israel now could undermine his efforts to convene the peace conference tentatively planned for

tighten Israel's grip on the occupied territories by moving more Jews into the area.

Although Israel says it does not use U.S. aid in the occupied territories, it frees Israel to spend other funds there.

Mr. Shamir has vowed to continue settling Jews in the occupied territories and opposition Member of Parliament Dedi Zucker said this week the number would be doubled by the end of 1992.

The right-wing Jerusalem Post, a solid supporter of Mr. Shamir, accused Mr. Bush of "extortion" by linking loan guarantees to Middle East peace.

However, opposition Member of Parliament Yossi Sarid called Israel's lobbying assault on Congress a "vulgar mistake," that could backfire into anti-Israeli feeling among Americans.

"Even if Israel wins, it will lose this war," Mr. Sarid told army radio.

"That is, there must be linkage between the realisation of immigration and the political issues that stand between us and the Arab states," he said. "This linkage is the grave thing."

No date set for peace parley

(Continued from page 1)

prospects for peace because these are indeed very divisive issues ... they are issues that we have said we think need to be resolved at the negotiating table and not before," Mr. Baker said.

"So we say people want to push these issues now and create a public and divisive debate about them are themselves creating linkage and that is detrimental to peace," he added.

Newspapers warned of growing conflict between Israel and the United States.

The Hebrew daily Hadashot called Mr. Bush's remarks "a declaration of war," and the mass circulation Yedioth Ahronoth said the Americans had "taken off their gloves."

Health Minister Ehud Olmert said he was "disappointed by the position" taken by Mr. Bush.

"For the first time a president of a friendly nation — especially the United States which was at the forefront of efforts to promote the emigration of Soviet Jews — now adopts a position that until this day only Arab states dared to take," Mr. Olmert said.

"So we say people want to push these issues now and create a public and divisive debate about them are themselves creating linkage and that is detrimental to peace," he added.

## Germany pledges further moves

(Continued from page 1)

German minister. While welcoming him, Mr. Kababri praised Jordanian-German relations and called for further improving ties.

He pointed out that Germany's contributions to Jordan did not only cover development projects but also infrastructure projects and services. He noted that Germany's contributions to restoring antiquities and historic sites in Jordan showed Germany's interest in Jordan's present, past and future.

He voiced hope that such interest will continue in the service of both countries.

## SLA fire kills UNIFIL soldier

(Continued from page 1)

taken U.N. soldiers ... hostage. As a result of the exchange of fire, a man from the U.N. was apparently killed and four others wounded," it said.

Asked about the Israeli version Mr. Goksel told Reuters: "There is no doubt in our minds that the SLA had more than ample information that there were prisoners held there."

"We told them several times U.N. soldiers had been taken hostage ... we were telling the SLA and passing messages to the (Israeli army) we were there and please don't fire."

He said UNIFIL told the Israeli army that soldiers were held hostage and urged no firing in the area at 7:45 a.m. The first shots were fired at 8:30 a.m.

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## Defensive changes give Spurs early-season boost

LONDON (R) — English first division Tottenham, seeking stability on and off the field after the turmoil caused by their massive debts, are receiving an early-season lift from the influence of new manager Peter Shreeves.

Shreeves, who took over when Terry Venables switched from coach to managing director as part of a takeover to save the ailing London club, has made bold defensive changes that have paid off with encouraging league form.

Spurs go into Saturday's first division match at home to city rivals Queen's Park Rangers with three wins and only one defeat in their opening five matches — a sequence owing much to greater resilience at the back.

Club captain Gary Mahburt believes the strengthening of his side's previously shaky defence could be the key to a genuine title challenge this season.

The improvement has followed Shreeves' decision to replace Norwegian goalkeeper Erik

Thorstvedt with 19-year-old Ian Walker and convert striker Paul Stewart to a midfielder.

Mahburt said: "People have criticised our defence in the past and said it was a weakness that stopped us becoming champions, but I think we look a different proposition now."

Shreeves said: "The ability of Paul Stewart as a bolding player in midfield has benefitted our defence, and Walker is in tip-top form. He has given me a nice problem because I have to choose between a boy who has kept three clean sheets and an experienced international."

Leeds, one of only two clubs still unbeaten in the first division, defend their record away to Chelsea with England pair Tony Dorigo and David Batty fit after minor injuries suffered in the 1-0 defeat by Germany Wednesday.

Left-back Dorigo, who pays his first visit to Chelsea since his £1.3 million (\$2.2 million) transfer from the London club last May,

has recovered from a bruised foot, while midfielder Batty has responded to treatment for a "dead leg."

Striker Rod Wallace is out with a groin injury which needs an operation, so midfielder Steve Hodge looks set to play his first full game since his move and Leroy Burrell.

Leaders Manchester United, the other side still unbeaten, await fitness reports on Soviet international Andrei Kanchelskis and England Andrei Parker before naming the side to face Southampton away.

Kanchelskis limped off last Saturday against Norwich with a recurrence of an Achilles injury that had kept him out of the previous four games.

Manager Alex Ferguson said: "Kanchelskis is 90 per cent fit. Paul Parker got a slight knock on the leg in the England game Wednesday but should be okay. I will have a look at both players again tomorrow."

## U.S. trying to build Olympic basketball team that will never be forgotten

NEW YORK (AP) — They like Mike. And Larry. And Magic. USA basketball is trying to build a U.S. Olympic team that will never be forgotten.

The selection committee is looking for a dream team — led by Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan and Larry Bird — that couldn't be matched after the novelty of NBA players in the Olympics wears off and the prospect of a hot summer in a cramped Athletes' Village discourages prospective players.

"It would be so exciting having a team with those three," Bird's lawyer, Bob Woolf, said. "It would never be forgotten."

Johnson, Charles Barkley and Karl Malone haven't wavered in their desire to play since 1989 when the door opened for Olympic participation by NBA players,

and it's impossible to imagine that all-NBA players would not be invited.

Nice start. Those three and the college guys who went to the Pan Am Games might be enough to bring home the gold from Barcelona.

But from that beginning, a once-in-a-lifetime club that also includes Jordan, Bird, Patrick, Ewing, John Stockton, Scottie Pippen, Chris Mullin and David Robinson reportedly is set.

C.M. Newton, chairman of the 13-man selection committee, said for now the committee is working from a pool of top players, determining the degree of each player's interest.

"Our desire is no different than ever before," Newton said, "and that's to put together the best possible team that can be put

together. But the uniqueness of this being the first time for NBA players is there."

Jordan certainly would be the biggest catch for the committee, and Johnson and Barkley have pressured their Chicago Bulls rival to join the club. Despite reports that Jordan has agreed to play in Spain, his management group insists a decision hasn't been made.

"Michael's status hasn't changed — he's undecided," Pro-spokesman Ted Ewanick said. "Because of time constraints, the fact he played in the Olympics in 1984 and his desire to take a spot from a deserving player who never was in the Olympics."

"I tell him that we can do something that could be truly great," Johnson said of his conversations with Jordan.

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## Piggott aiming for 30th classic victory

DONCASTER, England (R) — Remarkable 55-year-old Lester Piggott, partners 5-1 third favourite Micheletti in Saturday's St. Leger, final classic of the English flat racing season, and the form book says he can win.

Piggott enjoyed 29 classics successes before retiring in 1985. Another major victory would give the 11-times former champion a record-equalling ninth Leger and his first classic since his dramatic return to the turf 11 months ago.

Piggott's 41 winners this season include two vintage performances at Doncaster Thursday, second day of the Leger meeting.

Most race fans can readily recall his most recent Leger success in 1984 when Commanche Run gave everything up the long, punishing Doncaster Straight.

Less will remember St. Paddy winning the 1960 event for the late Sir Noel Murless, Piggott's first Leger win.

The burden of re-writing the record books falls on the least experienced runner in the 10-strong field.

But Micheletti, owned by Charles St. George and trained by Henry Cecil — two of Piggott's

greatest friends — is just the sort of improving and late-developing colt to win this 14½ furlongs (2.9 kms) test. Some rain would help his cause.

Unsighted on a racecourse until July but unbeaten in his three races since, Micheletti, a half brother to 1989 Leger winner Michelozzo, has been working particularly well at home.

Piggott deserted Royal Ascot winner Saddlers' Hall to team up with his old friends, the men who provided him with his comeback ride last year.

The two horses preferred ahead of Micheletti are French Raider Toulon (3-1) and Corrupt (4-1).

The pair started 4-1 joint favourites for the Epsom Derby in June but flopped badly behind Generous, who goes for the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe early next month.

Both have won since Epsom and look sure to give a much better account of themselves. Toulon, owned by Prince Khalid Abdullah, will have the benefit of champion jockey Pat Eddery on board.

Corrupt is a tough performer on his day but trainer Neville

Callaghan and jockey Frankie Dettori have still to win a classic.

Paul Cole, trainer of Generous and last year's Leger winner, the unattractively named Snurge, relies on 6-1 chance Fly Away Soon.

The Colt is another who has improved all season, but some of his racing has been on the all-weather surface at Lingfield, a more usual venue for the sport's lesser lights.

Best of the outsiders may be Jahaful (14-1), disappointing earl in the season but a useful winner at Goodwood last time out when tried over a longer distance.

The Colt's trainer Dick Hern has won the Leger six times and jockey Willie Carson three.

Not there are 50 in London and a further five in Rute as the sport has grown and the number of championships proliferated.

Athletics, which did not stage

its own world championships until 1983, will now have one every two years after a recent IAAF congress decision.

The regular competitions now

include such events as world race walking cups and the women's world 15-km road championship.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIA HIRSCH  
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### THE MOYSIAN FIT

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH  
♦ A Q 5  
♦ 7 6 3  
♦ A 7 6 5 4  
♦ K J

WEST  
♦ K 4  
♦ Q 8 4  
♦ K J 10 9 8  
♦ 9 5

EAST  
♦ 9 8 6 3  
♦ A K 2  
♦ 2  
♦ A 7 6 3 2

SOUTH  
♦ 8 7 6 5  
♦ 4 3  
♦ 2  
♦ 4 3

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of a suit.

Declarer had now taken the first

nine tricks. When a diamond was led from dummy, East had to ruff with the ten to prevent declarer scoring the eight in the fulfilling trick. Declarer discarded a heart and, when East shifted to a heart, West ruffed with the eight. West overruffed and was down to nothing but diamonds. On the forced return of that suit, declarer had to score nine of trumps as the fulfilling trick.

Obviously, North-South had no

such restriction. When South re-

sponded one spade to the one-di-

mond opening bid, North had no hesitation in raising to two spades. South's diamond jump showed a singleton, and the result was a hairy four-spade contract.

For the bidding, West deduced that North-South might be relying on scoring tricks with ruffs, so that declarer got off to the good lead of a low trump away from the king. Since the contract was going nowhere if the king of spades was with East, declarer took the finesse. After cashing the ace of diamonds, declarer ruffed a diamond in hand, cashed the king and ace of clubs and led another club.

If West ruffed with the king of spades, declarer would have discarded a heart from dummy, so West discarded a heart. The club was ruffed, the ace and king of hearts were cashed and another club was led, ruffed with the ace as West discarded another heart.

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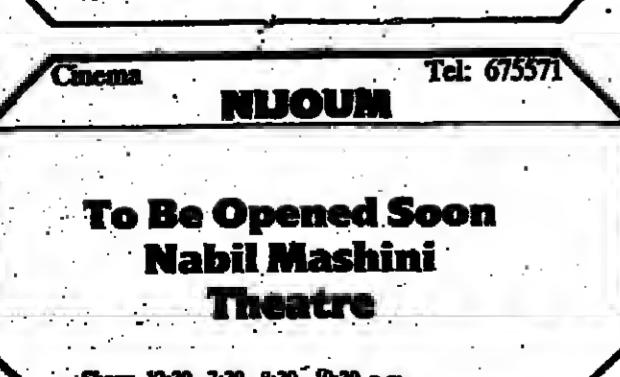
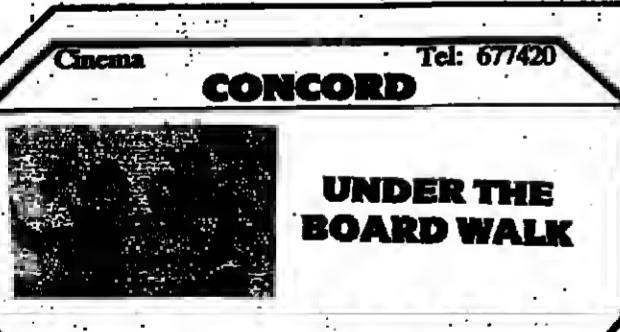
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Financial Markets		Jordan Times			
in co-operation with		Cairo Amman Bank			
U.S. Dollar in International Markets					
Currency	NEW YORK	TOKYO			
	CLOSE Date: 11/9/91	CLOSE Date: 12/9/91			
Sterling Pound	1.7340	1.7325			
Deutsche Mark	7.6885	7.6873			
Swiss Franc	1.4787	1.4798			
French Franc	5.7435	5.7443*			
Japanese Yen	134.72	134.50			
European Currency Unit	1.2145	1.2140*			
IND Per STD					
European Opening at 1000 a.m. GMT					
Euromoney Interest Rates Date: 12/9/91					
Currency	1 MTHS	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS	
U.S. Dollar	5.50	5.43	5.68	5.81	
Sterling Pound	10.57	10.00	9.93	9.93	
Deutsche Mark	9.00	9.00	9.15	9.37	
Swiss Franc	8.00	8.00	7.93	7.68	
French Franc	9.18	9.31	9.31	9.43	
Japanese Yen	7.00	6.82	6.40	6.31	
European Currency Unit	9.68	9.72	9.75	9.75	
Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.					
Precious Metals Date: 12/9/91					
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*
Gold	544.50	6.70	Silver	3.95	.090
21 Karat					
Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 12/9/91					
Currency	Bid	Offer			
U.S. Dollar	.687	.689			
Sterling Pound	1.1889	1.1948			
Deutsche Mark	.4068	.4087			
Swiss Franc	.4639	.4662			
French Franc	.1197	.1203			
Japanese Yen	.5101	.5127			
Dutch Guilder	.3607	.3625			
Swedish Krona	.1117	.1123			
Italian Lira*	.0544	.0547			
Belgian Franc	.07963	.07973			
* Per 100					
Other Currencies Date: 12/9/91					
Currency	Bid	Offer			
Bahraini Dinar	1.7700	1.7750			
Lebanese Lira	.0770	.0772			
Saudi Riyal	.1429	.1437			
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-			
Qatari Riyal	.1860	.1870			
Egyptian Pound	.2050	.2150			
Oman Riyal	.1700	.1740			
UAE Dirham	.1860	.1870			
Greek Drachma	.3620	.3700			
Cypriot Pound	.14600	.15000			
** Per 100					
CAR Indices for Amman Financial Market					
Index	10/9/91	Close	11/9/91	Close	
All-Shares	115.00	115.71			
Banking Sector	99.26	99.39			
Insurance Sector	119.11	119.50			
Industry Sector	137.82	139.49			
Services Sector	127.67	128.31			
December 31, 1990 = 100					
**NOTE: The big jump in the industry and All-Shares Indices, compared to their levels of (113.98) and (106.61) respectively on September 9, 1991, is mainly due to the rise in the share price of the Arab Petrol Co. from JD(10) to more than JD(100).					

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.			
One Sterling	1.7300/10	U.S. dollars	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1365.70	Deutschmarks	Dutch guilders
1.6900/10	1.9050/60	Swiss francs	Belgian francs
1.4807/14	34.83/90	French francs	Italian lire
5.7500/50	1265/1266	Japanese yen	Swedish crowns
134.05/15	6.1500/50	Norwegian crowns	Danish crowns
6.6200/50	6.5275/25	U.S. dollars	
One ounce of gold	343.80/344.30		



## Former East German economic supremo says communism 'an illusion'

BONN (R) — Guenter Mittag, former communist East Germany's economic chief, says it became clear to him 10 years ago that the Statist state was heading for bankruptcy.

But his proposals for reform were ignored and he had been made a scapegoat, he said in an interview with the German weekly *Der Spiegel*.

Mr. Mittag, 64, widely blamed for ruining East Germany's economy before German unification last year, has been charged with fraud and abuse of public trust. He is awaiting trial but has remained free because of his frail health.

Asked what went wrong in East Germany, once hailed as the Soviet Bloc's showcase economy, he said: "The socialist system itself was false. It is an illusion... it will never be tried again."

Only a market economy, based on incentive and profit, could work, he said.

Mr. Mittag, who was briefly arrested after the fall of the hardline communist regime in 1989, has been accused of hiding the fact that East Germany was on the verge of bankruptcy for years.

"The economic collapse began in 1981 and became apparent in 1983," he said.

"East German industry could never have recovered on its own strength," he said. "I would never have filed for bankruptcy, but as far as I was concerned, the way to go was a step-by-step confederation with West Germany."

One reason for the slump is growth and foreign trade, he said. Was a cut in Soviet oil deliveries, "and the whole politburo was informed of this situation."

But no changes in the command economy were tolerated and the socialist course "was kept

down to the last detail, down to the price of flowers."

"All my proposals were rejected," Mr. Mittag said. "I always tried to save money in the state budget, reduce administration, cut defence expenditure... and thus make the means available."

He said his proposals were thrown out by other politburo members, including state and Communist Party boss Erich Honecker and Prime Minister Willi Stoph, whom he described as head of the "blockhead faction."

Mr. Mittag, always considered a close friend of Mr. Honecker, told *Der Spiegel* they often went bunting together but: "We always had serious differences, (to our work)."

"At the end of 1987, I came to the conclusion that every chance had been blown. No help was possible from the East and we could not turn to the West for comprehensive economic cooperation because of latent political resistance within our own ranks," he said.

Mr. Stoph and others accused him of not being up to his job and blamed him for the economic debacle, he said.

Mr. Mittag said politburo members with good contacts in Moscow talked behind his back. At one point, then Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev warned Mr. Honecker that his chief economist could be a Western spy.

What if East Germany were still a separate state today, its fortified border and the Berlin wall still in place?

"(That's) beyond description," said Mr. Mittag. "The thought of it sends shivers down my spine. Murder and manslaughter. Mystery. Hunger."

## Saudi firm to set up banks in two Soviet republics soon

MANAMA, Bahrain (R) — A Saudi business conglomerate plans to set up commercial investment banks in the Soviet republics of Russia and Kazakhstan to finance economic development there, a company spokesman has said.

Executive of Jeddah-based Dallah Al Baraka Group would travel to the Kazakhstan capital Alma Ata in October to open the first bank. Majid Al Refai, the group's senior executive for investment banking, told *Reuters* in a telephone interview.

Negotiations for the second bank, to be based in Moscow, were well under way and Dallah Al Baraka executives would travel there later in September to finalise the arrangements, he said.

"The plans for the first bank are almost finished. We have an Arab general manager who speaks Russian and its Russian employees are being trained abroad," Mr. Refai said. "Our chairman has talked to (Russian President Boris) Yeltsin about the second bank and we already

have the licence," he added. The banks, which will be joint ventures with the governments of the respective republics, are the first business ventures of their kind since the two countries restored ties last September after a 52-year break.

Last month the Saudi government signed a \$1.5 billion loan pledged to Moscow last year as a reward for its support during the Gulf crisis.

Victor Zhilin, the Soviet commercial attaché in Riyadh, told *Reuters* Moscow had already received the first half of the credit — a \$750 million balance of payments loan from the kingdom's Riyad Bank.

The Riyad-based Saudi Fund for Development has agreed to provide the remaining \$750 million for unspecified projects over the next three years.

Mr. Refai said the Saudi banks set up by big firm would be run on Islamic principles, which means they will avoid interest-related instruments.

The Bank of Kazakhstan, which has a large Muslim popula-

tion, would have an authorised capital of 150 million roubles and would concentrate on trade finance and leasing of imported industrial or agricultural equipment.

Dallah Al Baraka, with a 51 per cent stake, would provide half of the paid-in capital of 75 million roubles.

Mr. Refai gave no further details. But Mr. Zhilin said it was understood the bank might help finance development of Kazakhstan's giant Tengiz oilfield near the Caspian Sea and modernisation of its refinery at Karaganda.

The U.S. oil firm Chevron Corp. is negotiating to develop the oilfield, which with potential reserves of up to 25 billion barrels is one of the largest oil discoveries this decade.

Dallah Al Baraka, headed by Saudi businessman Salih Kamil, is one of Saudi Arabia's biggest private conglomerates with assets of more than \$4 billion. It will be involved in a joint venture with the Saudi Fund for Development to finalise plans for a Saudi exhibition scheduled to take place there next year, he said.

## U.S. cuts discount rate to 5%

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) cut its key discount rate Friday to five per cent from 5.5 per cent in its latest effort to ensure an economic recovery after a year of recession.

The central bank's rate cut is effective immediately, and a leading commercial bank quickly took the cue to lower the cost of credit. Morgan Guaranty Trust Co, a big New York bank, cut its prime lending rate to eight per cent from 8.5 per cent.

The discount rate is the amount the central bank charges banks for short-term loans and influences the cost of money throughout the economy. Lower rates tend to spur spending and propel growth — just what the American economy needs as it tries to emerge from the recession that began in July, 1990.

The Fed had cut the discount rate from seven per cent to 5.5 per cent between last December and May.

The discount rate was last changed on April 30, when it was reduced to 5.5 per cent from six per cent because of the weak level of national economic activity.

By cutting the closely watched discount rate, the Fed was signalling it wanted banks to join in by lowering their prime lending rates. The rate for their best business customers has been steady at 8.5 per cent since May.

The Fed cut the discount rate by half a percentage point in an attempt to stimulate the economy after a recession which has lasted more than a year.

The Fed's easing move came less than an hour after new economic reports showed relatively moderate inflation and weakness in consumer spending.

"They are the main offenders on the construction boom and the debt defaults that are plaguing the government," he said.

The total defaults of businesses, including state ones, stood at a hefty 270 billion yuan (\$50 billion) this year, the China Daily said earlier.

Squeezing new construction was an important step, a Western economist said. "They needed to rein in the construction boom to help curb the debt defaults."

He said many companies in the construction sector, many of them state-owned, were unable to raise sufficient funds either from banks, the government or foreign sources.

"They go ahead with their projects anyway and find themselves unable to pay their debts," he said.

"We're seeing overheating in the construction sector as an early sign of an overheating economy," the economist said.

The government, desperate to prop up inefficient state enterprises, created large amounts of credit for them, including big bond issues in recent weeks.

Premier Li Peng discussed the economy with state firms at four meetings this week, the official People's Daily newspaper has said.

"We need to further improve the political core function of the party organisations in state enterprises, improve the managerial responsibility system and rely on the working class wholeheartedly," it quoted Mr. Li as saying.

The government's chief

## China orders curbs on new construction to tighten credit

BEIJING (R) — China, tightening credit amid crushing domestic debt defaults, has ordered curbs on new building projects, the official China Daily newspaper has said.

## Serb rebels pour into army barracks; Croatia loses control of Kostajnica

BELGRADE (R) — Croatia said Friday that Serbian guerrillas were pouring into Yugoslav army barracks in seaports along the rebel republic's Adriatic coast as part of a continuing increase in military pressure.

Zagreb Radio reported that guerrillas from the Republic of Serbia and its ally Montenegro had infiltrated the region which has been cut off for two days from central Croatia because of fighting.

Guerrilla forces were seen entering barracks of the Serbian-led army at Sibenik, Benkovac and Split, it added.

Ethnic violence in Croatia has intensified in the south of the republic in the past week as part of the guerrilla campaign against independence for Croatia inside its present borders.

Fighting continued also in central and eastern regions of Croatia which suffered a psychological blow Thursday night when it lost control of Kostajnica, southeast of Zagreb.

Almost 400 Croatian police and national guards who surren-

dered after a battle lasting several days were allowed to reach safety in the neighbouring Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Osjek, the main town in eastern Croatia which borders Serbia, was hit by 200 mortar shells in overnight fighting in which seven people were hurt, Reuter correspondent Nikola Antonov reported.

He said houses, a hospital and a school were damaged in the bombardment which halted train services in the town of 150,000.

Yugoslav President Stipe Mesić warned he might call for foreign intervention if the federal army continued to aid the Serbs.

Well over 400 people have been killed in fighting since Croatia and Slovenia declared independence on June 25.

"Unless the army withdraws within the period I have given it ... I will be obliged to call on the army's security and justice authorities to bring charges against those who do not implement the decision of the presidency," Mr. Mesić said.

"After this there remains the

possibility for me to request intervention from outside Yugoslavia as well," he told Yugoslav news agency, Tanjug.

Deputy Defence Minister General Marko Negovanovic told a news conference: "Whoever invites foreign forces is a traitor and any army which comes without our permission will be treated as an enemy."

The president of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Alija Izetbegovic, expressing fears that ever-widening violence could engulf his central republic, calling for a demilitarized zone on his border with Croatia.

The Serbs and the army have captured more than a third of Croatia since cutting a bridge in Maslinica in the south. It was the last link to a 360-kilometre swathe of coastal territory that includes Dubrovnik, Zadar and Split.

As representatives of the feuding republics met in the Hague for peace talks, EC envoy Henric Wijnands completed a shuttle between the battlefields in an effort to stop the bloodshed.



## 4 more die on eve of S. African peace convention

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Four more blacks, two of them policemen, were killed overnight as South Africa's warring factions put the finishing touches to a peace accord aimed at halting township violence, police said Friday.

The four deaths pushed the toll since Sunday to 121. By Thursday the count was 104, but police said 17 more died in hospital from injuries sustained in the fighting.

Police spokesman Frans Malherbe said four men armed with handguns approached a group of municipal policemen and tried to disarm them. A shooting ensued and two policemen were killed.

Two men armed with AK-47 automatic rifles walked into a restaurant at Vosloorus township east of Johannesburg Thursday night and sprayed patrons with gunfire, killing one woman and a man.

About 1,200 policemen and soldiers sealed off Phola Park squatter settlement east of Johannesburg and searched houses, cars and residents for weapons.

The squatter camp has seen some of the fiercest fighting during the past days.

An accord aimed at ending factional fighting between Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party that has cost 3,000 lives in the past year is to be signed at a multi-party convention Saturday.

The two groups, plus the government and church, business and labour movements, are expected to sign the accord in their most determined effort yet to quell the spear and gun battles.

Vowing his government would "leave no stone unturned" to end the township warfare, reformist president F.W. de Klerk said: "The peace accord to be signed Saturday can make an important contribution, provided that all parties who sign it live to the letter and the spirit of the agreement."

They announced the unilateral ceasefire to celebrate the imminent senate rejection of the treaty.

Meanwhile, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said Friday it foresees no increase in the size of American forces in Japan, whatever the outcome of a debate in the Philippines to close major bases there.

"In general, the U.S. government is trying to reduce the quantity of its forces in Asia. There will be no increase in U.S. forces in Japan, whatever happens in adjacent areas," ministry spokesman said.

Under the treaty, the United States would pay \$203 million a year for Subic Bay Naval Base for 10 more years had suggested the three-year formula to allow American forces a graceful exit from the former U.S. colony.

But Gen. Gonzales said a rejection of the treaty in Monday's vote was now virtually inevitable.

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